Watch Words

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GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION
2400 Ridge Road
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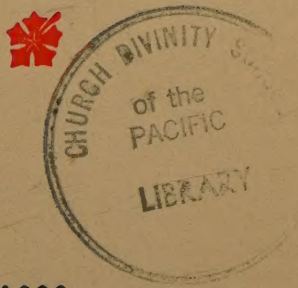
Watch Words

"Brave Words and True"

Selected from the

Writings of the Reverend

William Reed Huntington, D.D.



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Foreword.

Three hundred and sixty-five of the following selections were made for a calendar. A manuscript copy was sent to Dr. Huntington, who wrote in reply that it had given him "one of the pleasant surprises of his life." In making the additional excerpts necessary for the never-out-of-date Church year, the compiler has been careful to follow, as closely as possible, Dr. Huntington's wishes as expressed in regard to those first chosen.

The proceeds from the sale of these Watch Words for the years which "await us"—without his kindly shepherding—will be used in placing some useful memorial to him in the Library of The School for Deaconesses now being builded near the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

On the Monday following the seventh Sunday after Trinity our "Spiritual Pastor and Master" entered into the joy of his Lord. His last message to us was, "Tell my people—my congregation—that I am dying in the Faith I preached to them." As "Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host" may none of his people be missing!

These Watch Words are sent out upon their way with the hope that they may help to keep in our minds and hearts the Faith as he preached it, and as a grateful tribute to the memory of our beloved Rector.—L. C. K.

7650

Watch Words

The First Sunday in Advent.

Christ is really God's word of answer to those who turn to Him.

Monday.

Speaking sacramentally Holy Baptism is the porch of the Christian life, and this is why the traditional place for a baptismal font is near the door. But speaking really the porch of the Christian life is the grace we know as HUMILITY.

Tuesday.

To be "gentle unto all"; that is an apostle's exaction of one to whom he writes.

Wednesday.

Things are what they are, whether we look at them or refuse them.

Thursday.

With God all things are possible; and with man, God helping him, more things are possible than we dare dream.

Friday.

When dignity wholly disappears from the administration of religion, reverence presently takes wing.

Saturday.

God uses the outward tokens to teach us the inward truths.

The Second Sunday in Advent.

Large-hearted and generous, and pitiful and bountiful, we must be at heart, or we are none of His.

Monday.

A thousand subtleties link the intellect to the conscience.

Tuesday.

The spoken prayer has not to traverse a distance that can be measured by rod or chain before reaching its destination.

Wednesday.

Unless we look at things in the largest possible way, we cannot see the goodness.

Thursday.

There is not one of us to whom at least some whisperings of the voice of God have not come.

Friday.

Give Him your confidence, just as you would give anybody your confidence who had shown himself deserving of it.

Saturday.

We should be content to let others help us in the discovery of the truth of God.

The Third Sunday in Advent.

Speech is thought going forth upon its travels.

Monday.

The twofold patience which shows itself sometimes as willingness to suffer, and sometimes as willingness to wait.

Tuesday.

Honestly desire to receive the faith in its wholeness and its purity.

Wednesday.

Enrich me out of your treasure, and if there be anything of mine which can help you, take it in return.

Thursday.

High thoughts about the rights and duties of man have their origin in a true estimate of what God is like.

Friday.

God is just as much in the world to-day as He ever was.

Saturday.

Christ is the day-spring, the beginning of the morning.

The Fourth Sunday in Advent.

Truth which Jesus Christ came into the world to make so clear that everyone might grasp it.

Monday.

Christ is the Father's message to us, clothed in the vesture of our humanity.

Tuesday.

The spotless heart, the undimmed conscience, the absolutely obedient will, these have been embodied once and only once in human history.

Wednesday.

These are the traits that make up Christian character,—humility, gentleness, large-hearted generosity, patience, and faith.

Thursday.

God grant that before the end comes we may have acquired the spiritual mind.

Friday.

The shadows longer reach; the sunset nears;
But He who fills the measure of thy years
Full to the brim, pressed down and running o'er,
Sows as He gathers.

Saturday.

We need the grace of God to keep us firm and true.

Christmas.

In a little village, a Child was born, who was (also) destined to assert before He died a world-wide claim. The surroundings of this Child monarch were most unworldly, His heralds were angels, His courtiers shepherds, His throne a manger.

The man would have written himself down mad who should have ventured the prophecy that we, to-day, in a land not then discovered, should be keeping that Child's birthday with prayers of thanksgiving and hymns of praise. He might have been believed had he predicted it of the man who could tax the world; he could not have persuaded anybody that it would come true of the Child wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And yet what Cæsar could not do for one home, that Child has done for millions, nor is it possible for me to wish you a better Christmas wish than that returning from this hour of worship you may hear His voice saying as you cross your threshold,—"Peace be to this house."

Saint Stephen's Day.

Deep down in your heart, you know full well that in so strange a world as this, a stranger you must continue until, at some point of the spiritual compass, a light breaks, revealing to you the Commander of whom the old prayer says that his service is perfect freedom.

Saint John the Evangelist's Day.

The only sure way of holding on to the heavenly friendship . . . is to keep the Heavenly Friend ever in plain sight.

The Innocents' Day.

The track of the world's great leaders has been too often flecked with blood, but you could tell where Jesus had been among the towns and villages of Palestine by the opposite tokens,—the healed and not the wounded.

The Circumcision of Christ.

Nowhere in all literature, Hebrew or Gentile, has such a sacred glow been thrown over motherhood as in this precious idyll of the Incarnation.

The Epiphany.

Look out upon the world . . . and see what it is, a world heavy hearted and sorrow laden. Look again, and see it what it also is, a world transfigured in the light of the good news that God is love, that Christ is risen, and that man is free.

The Sunday after Christmas.

The years await me. What they hold,
Thou knowest, Lord, not I.

Monday.

So but the Lord be at my side alway.

Tuesday.

If it be true, and the wise and good assure us it is, that things are never settled until they are settled right, the slow way may prove the better way, in fact the only way.

Wednesday.

What gravitation does for stars, the eternal Spirit may be counted upon to do for souls, holding them invisibly to a unity in the truth.

Thursday.

Cordial relations which alone can supply the starting point for efforts to convey spiritual help.

Friday.

Christianity is the religion of light. It has everything to hope and nothing to fear from more light.

Saturday.

Let us enjoy our work while it is still ours to do.

The First Sunday after the Epiphany.

It is always pleasanter to be led to a conclusion than to be driven to one.

Monday.

The Christian religion rests on the fact that man is a creature who stands in continual need of help:—Christ comes into the world as the great Helper.

Tuesday.

Fellowship with the Spirit of holiness is the only guarantee of peace of mind in this or in any world.

Wednesday.

People can not be made free with the freedom of the truth unless there is someone to tell them the truth.

Thursday.

Whatever is good and true, wherever found.

Friday.

Persistently positive in the witness which they bore to truth.

Saturday.

Our perceptive powers must be sharpened before our reflective faculties can accomplish much.

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany.

The God we worship is the most perfect being we can possibly imagine.

Monday.

The recognition of the household as the true unit of society.

Tuesday.

As well forbid the smoke to rise, as forbid the heart to pray.

Wednesday.

The blossom of the century plant, when at last it bursts, has all the suddenness of a miracle; but only the patient absorption of much now forgotten sunshine has made the flowering possible.

Thursday.

So hard it is for one mind to get itself understood by other minds.

Friday.

The very best things, all of them, elude definition.

Saturday.

He cannot live the full, the perfect life which is in him to live, by bread only.

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany.

Nothing to fear from the outside, but much to fear from within.

Monday.

If by a "change of heart" is meant such a swinging about of the will's axis as brings it parallel with the line of God's will, perhaps our disuse of the phrase has been a mistake.

Tuesday.

The maturing of character in the individual soul.

Wednesday.

Believe in the practice of hope, as a Christian virtue.

Thursday.

The innermost characteristic of Almighty God is goodness, and therefore the most urgent duty of all true worshippers of Him is gladness; keep on believing that blessing, not cursing, is the far event towards which we move.

Friday.

The seeking out and finding of the one lost sheep . . . God's care for the individual soul.

Saturday.

O God, Who art . . . the Light of the faithful.

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

There is nothing "modern" about the imitation of Christ.

Monday.

That hatred of cruelty and oppression which goes with the best courage.

Tuesday.

Call it a dream, it is one of Joseph's sort; God sends it.

Wednesday.

There is such a thing as a religion of the animal life. It consists in the proper care and use of the bodily faculties.

Thursday.

This is not the iron, it is the golden age of missions.

Friday.

We may be at liberty to live the sort of life we know to be best.

Saturday.

Material progress, unaccompanied by growth in spiritual insight, is a questionable blessing.

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

His concern was to make ready a soil into which the tree of life could strike its roots.

Monday.

No bee dreams of a cell different from the hexagonal one which all bees have always built. It is otherwise with man. Starting from the cave, he has finally reached the Cathedral.

Tuesday.

Honest praise is the outcome of an absolute unselfishness.

Wednesday.

There are still men of vision whom God makes His instruments in carrying out Christ's promise that the Spirit should lead us into all the truth.

Thursday.

To forgive is something loftier than to condone.

Friday.

The life of the Ten Commandments is high, but the life of the Beatitudes is higher.

Saturday.

There is the instinct still within us prompting us to express joy whenever anything beautiful or glorious crosses the field of vision.

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany.

The race needs a Saviour, and you and I need one.

Monday.

Remember that the interests of religion are largely in the custody of women.

Tuesday.

There must be an equality of nature for love to be made perfect on both sides.

Wednesday.

Between God and man personal relations may and do exist.

Thursday.

Our praise is the only thing we have that we can give Him. Everything else is His already.

Friday.

The destined apostle . . . must have the help of the prophet before he can see his path.

Saturday.

What is fascinating upon occasion does not necessarily meet our every-day need.

Septuagesima.

More careful than ever before for the things of the Spirit.

Monday.

God is interested and means us to be interested, in peoples as well as in people.

Tuesday.

Even the fishermen of the Gospel were under the necessity of mending their nets now and again.

Wednesday.

The Seer sees, and having seen, speaks and tells.

Thursday.

Religion is . . . an affair of personal allegiance and personal intercourse.

Friday.

It was God's purpose to lead us to a higher level.

Saturday.

Look and see in what a wonderful manner the Providence of God is opening doors.

Sexagesima.

Take patiently thy lot and God thy Spirit keep.

Monday.

No shilly-shallying with the awful fact of Sin.

Tuesday.

Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs, are still bringing, day by day, their tribute.

Wednesday.

The Christian Church as finally evolved came to be built "according to the measure of a man," a man with outstretched arms; in other words, the Crucified.

Thursday.

Not only the builder of the house but also he for whom the house is builded is greater than the house.

Friday.

There must be no broken link in the Coat of Mail.

Saturday.

There is but one salt preservative of nations —the salt of righteousness.

Quinquagesima.

If satisfaction for our deepest needs is not to be found in the religion of Jesus Christ, it is to be found nowhere.

Monday.

The precedent of Daniel opening his window towards Jerusalem three times a day.

Tuesday.

In the Psalms, souls are hungry and thirsty, weary and faint.

Ash Wednesday.

We come into the hallowed area swept by the light from the cross.

Thursday.

At our end of the line the soul, at the other end God and the things of God.

Friday.

Sin and death and love and pain, how intricately these great strands of mystery cross and recross one another in the braided fabric of our thinking!

Saturday.

Can we be too thankful to the sturdy champions of the Reformation?

The First Sunday in Lent.

In worship we exercise towards God the same feelings and affections that bind us to our fellow-men.

Monday.

Daily prayer is one of the two great devotional heritages of the Church.

Tuesday.

The soul of man is as capable of merriment as of devotion.

Wednesday.

To discover an indestructible kind of life, and then to devote oneself to living it.

Thursday.

There exists, in connection with everything that grows . . . a certain mystery . . . we call personal identity.

Friday.

Among the Beatitudes, that one has always been reckoned the foremost which is assigned to the pure in heart.

Saturday.

Adoration ought not to be such a difficult spiritual exercise.

The Second Sunday in Lent.

The law of nourishment binds everything that lives, be it plant or soul.

Monday.

The singular power of survival that lives in gracious words.

Tuesday.

The principle that the one must suffer in order that the many may be blessed is writ large by God's own finger across the page of Nature. The very earth itself bears, scored deep upon its crust, the sign of the cross.

Wednesday.

I yet contrive to keep
One joy no man may take away.

Thursday.

The life within the vine remains what it always was. The growth means health.

Friday.

Behold that innumerable company of faithful men who even now, to-day, in all climates, under all skies, are making the imitation of Christ their persistent aim.

Saturday.

The soul of man needs to be instructed, it needs to be sympathized with, it needs to be uplifted.

The Third Sunday in Lent.

The three great elements of the Godly life . . . are vision, action, and passion.

Monday.

The greater part of such enjoyment as we have grows out of the interchange of thought and feeling that goes on between ourselves and those about us.

Tuesday.

No interest is so intense as that kindled by personality.

Wednesday.

The sudden checking of indignation at the dictate of love.

Thursday.

A man in religion is intrinsically the same man as in common life.

Friday.

How little the laboring man, probably a slave, who made the cross, dreamed that he was fashioning a universal emblem for mankind.

Saturday.

It is needful for man's spiritual well-being that his thoughts should be turned as often as possible in the direction of sacrifice.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

Because we are men we worship,—because we are fellow-men our worship must have form.

Monday.

There can be no rough handling of the holy things without a brushing away of more or less of the bloom that makes the beauty of the fruit.

Tuesday.

He never intimated a hope that his sorrow might continue an abiding power among men. He never said, "My sorrow I leave with you." His desire was just the opposite of that.

Wednesday.

They had taken sweet counsel together, and walked as friends.

Thursday.

The blessedness of our faith in the communion of saints.

Friday.

I feel
His mercy wrap me with a warmth its own,
While at His feet I kneel.

Saturday.

There are ten thousand forms of helpfulness, wholly aside from manual labor.

The Fifth Sunday in Lent.

The relations which each soul sustains to God, and all souls to one another.

Monday.

Faith as a spiritual characteristic stands at the head of the list, the one indispensable condition precedent to our knowledge of the God who made us.

Tuesday.

There is nothing on earth so deep as sacrifice, nothing in heaven so high. It is the secret of true life, the witness of sincerity, the root and bond of love.

Wednesday.

Let us pray more fervently than we do.

Thursday.

Something better to live for than our own poor selfish interests.

Friday.

The deeper the injury the costlier the pardon.

Saturday.

Still, as of old, it is man's best privilege in regions where he cannot know, to trust; where he cannot prove, to hope.

The Sunday next before Easter.

In what we know as "Holy Scripture," and in that only of all the literatures of the earth, man walks ever either in the approving or the condemning presence of a watchful Judge.

Monday before Easter.

Walking in the way of the Cross.

Tuesday before Easter.

Having loved His own that were in the world, He must love them to the very end of loving,—that is, to the death.

Wednesday before Easter.

It was not God's purpose that the memory of sacrifice should fade out of men's minds.

Thursday before Easter.

Fleeing, hungry and thirsty, to the presence of the personal, the true, the living Christ.

Good Friday.

There is no man who has lived, no man who is living, no man who shall live, whom the benefit of Christ's death did not, does not, or will not in some measure and in some manner affect.

Easter-Even.

The victory of the cross is only another name for the reconciliation of mankind.

Easter-Day.

The Christ who has won the passionate love of half a hundred generations of men.

Monday in Easter-Week.

There is in us a reaching after the love which "many waters cannot quench."

Tuesday in Easter-Week.

Let us lift these thoughts of ours on and up into their grandest and best fulfilment.

Wednesday.

The quiet, gradual, patient shaping and moulding of the hand of the Spirit.

Thursday.

Even if we cannot fully comprehend the manner of the blessing, none the less fervently give thanks that blessed we are.

Friday.

It is the glory of love to prove itself unselfish.

Saturday.

God is good; what strength He asks, He ready stands to give.

The First Sunday after Easter.

Away down in our hearts let us pray for God's renewal of the soul.

Monday.

Goodness and truth, wherever we find them, and in whatever measure, are of God, and whenever we discover their presence, we are bound to acknowledge their origin.

Tuesday.

That very best of all living products the world can show,—a Christian character.

Wednesday.

It is sometimes granted us to forget what has been done, but never is it our privilege to undo it.

Thursday.

Nothing is lost of which we preserve the precious results.

Friday.

In our efforts after clearness, let us beware of trying to be too clear.

Saturday.

Not only are records essential to our knowing God, they are equally essential to our knowing man, and the knowledge of our fellow-man is no slight part of religion.

The Second Sunday after Easter.

To that which is essential, necessary, lasting, give the primacy.

Monday.

Christianity is something more than a form of thought; it is a way of life.

Tuesday.

No sensible person or careful observer is so completely satisfied with things as they are as not to be willing to acknowledge that they might conceivably be bettered.

Wednesday.

There is no one we can turn to with such confidence as to Him.

Thursday.

Such a thing as shall show itself to be of value, after all things else shall have passed away.

Friday.

The more confident a man is of the soundness of his position, the less need has he to bluster about it.

Saturday.

He knows us infinitely more thoroughly than we know ourselves.

The Third Sunday after Easter.

The words of the Common Prayer: they touch that which is most catholic in us, that which strongly links us to our kind.

Monday.

We are living out these lives of ours too much apart from God.

Tuesday.

If God is, then there is nothing, whether in the seen or unseen universe, that does not stand related to Him.

Wednesday.

Everything, without distinction, goes into the crucible to be tried by fire.

Thursday.

Wearied in the multitude of our counsels, we turn to Him who is Counsellor.

Friday.

A message of comfort and strength to the failing heart.

Saturday.

We toil on dismally, as if the making or the marring of our destinies rested wholly with ourselves.

The Fourth Sunday after Easter.

The Bible, with a voice of authority, speaks to us and gives assurance of both pardon and immortality.

Monday.

Man's trusteeship of his five senses is a doctrine of religion.

Tuesday.

It is not by cultivating an introspective, self-analyzing habit of mind that we are likely to find the way to peace.

Wednesday.

What we really need is a firm grasp upon essentials, and a wise liberty in all things else.

Thursday.

There are those among our fellow-creatures of whom we say that merely to come into their presence is like receiving a benediction.

Friday.

We always fear most that with which we are least familiar.

Saturday.

If we are to be helped at all, the help must come from some higher source than our own level.

The Fifth Sunday after Easter.

Such words as help men in finding their way to the fountain's brink.

Monday.

To the glad heart all nature is full of gladness.

Tuesday.

He put his followers upon their honor, and trusted them to serve Him without fear.

Wednesday.

There is one foundation which the shock of change can never overturn.

Ascension Day.

With respect to the resurrection body of Christ, I am content to follow the New Testament narrative in all its literalness, even up to the under surface of the cloud which received Him out of their sight.

Friday.

Distinguish carefully between what is essential and what is non-essential.

Saturday.

Surely the lambs need the shelter of the fold.

Sunday after Ascension-Day.

The power of adaptation is the guarantee of a perpetual youth.

Monday.

If life is empty, it is simply because we let it be so.

Tuesday.

A religion tangent to human affairs at only one point is inadequate; we want one that coheres with all the past.

Wednesday.

Peace belongs to Him, and we have it as a gift.

Thursday.

Nature-worship has always been, will always be, to the end of time, the most dangerous snare of the human mind.

Friday.

God, by some sifting process of His own, will ultimately sever the evil from the good.

Saturday.

Perhaps a smile or a cheerful word is the utmost you have to contribute to the lightening of the general burden; nevertheless, by all means contribute that.

Whitsunday.

We have high authority for believing that wisdom and understanding, counsel and knowledge, are gifts of the Holy Ghost to man.

Monday in Whitsun-Week.

Insincerity has a way of betraying itself, if not upon the moment, sooner or later.

Tuesday in Whitsun-Week.

Throw back the barrier and He can flood your empty life with light.

Wednesday.

The bright side of nature is the parable of righteousness.

Thursday.

Not up, only, we must look around as well.

Friday.

Cleanliness and temperance are what make the religion of the animal life.

Saturday.

To teach men to discriminate is to help them on their way.

Trinity Sunday.

He suffered in behalf of God, that He might give us the supreme proof of love.

Monday.

In a Christian land, children ought to be brought up as Christian children from the start.

Tuesday.

It is one of the most precious characteristics of human love . . . that it has the power to clothe its object with perfection.

Wednesday.

Our God is true, although His times be long
And hope's fulfilment late.

Thursday.

The machinery of nature is terribly strong. Whatever ventures too near, is drawn in among the wheels, and perishes.

Friday.

Because he is a man he owes it to all men to be helpful.

Saturday.

I follow on, obedient to the magic of His call.

The First Sunday after Trinity.

The Christian plea for the Scriptures is that they contain disclosures not elsewhere to be found with respect to the character and purposes of God, and the duty and destiny of man.

Monday.

"Well done, good and faithful servant," was not the reward of genius, it was the reward of toil.

Tuesday.

He gives me a purpose in life, an object, an aim, a goal.

Wednesday.

The heart must be touched before you can fairly be said to have your eyes open to the fact that God is.

Thursday.

He who is responsible for the mystery of human life, holds the key of that mystery in His hands.

Friday.

The demand for response is a thing instinctive in us, native to our feelings.

Saturday.

Mark the solemn pendulum of nature swing from dark to light, from light to dark.

The Second Sunday after Trinity.

The same temper makes men humble towards one another as well as towards God.

Monday.

A mighty impulse towards a better unity than has ever been, is making itself felt throughout Christendom.

Tuesday.

Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners.

Wednesday.

There are a great many ways of trying to explain away the sense of guiltiness in the human heart.

Thursday.

Firm anchorage, and yet rope enough to let the ship rise and fall with the tossing waves.

Friday.

Praise is one of the foods of the soul. To desire it is as natural as to desire bread.

Saturday.

The atmosphere is just as much a reality in a calm as in a storm.

The Third Sunday after Trinity.

Christ is waiting, patiently waiting, as the sunshine waits on the outside of a closed shutter.

Monday.

Sometimes only a gentle touch is needed, sometimes a heavy blow.

Tuesday.

The man you cheer is cheered not only through the ear but in the heart.

Wednesday.

That vague, indeterminate word "genius" has much to answer for in the record of spoilt character and shipwrecked lives.

Thursday.

Ocean and stream and forest answer to the states of mind in which they find us.

Friday.

The world cannot live, at least cannot live contentedly, without religion.

Saturday.

We are never really the poorer for having been told the truth.

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

One who felt deep down in his heart the need of help.

Monday.

Leave Him to settle in His own way and time controversies and strifes.

Tuesday.

The rest that freshens those who have fairly earned both bread and rest.

Wednesday.

God leads us up . . . into the hill country of the soul.

Thursday.

If God have what we understand by personality, that is to say, self-consciousness and will, we as persons must stand related to Him in some definite way; He must have a purpose with respect to us, and we a duty towards Him.

Friday.

Without the grip of the anchor the vessel would presently drift upon a lee shore.

Saturday.

The glory and the blessing of the Christian faith are that it . . . gives us God's own terms of reconciliation.

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

The Church is the commonwealth of souls, and every Christian owes it fealty and service.

Monday.

He has mastered the alphabet of fellowship and brotherhood.

Tuesday.

The gospel has been beautifully called the story of our Father's love.

Wednesday.

He who made the sea is greater than the sea.

Thursday.

Lapse of time and change of fashions may make error respectable, they never can make error true.

Friday.

The instincts of our nature of their own selves all incline to openness.

Saturday.

The ice and snow of a severely pure doctrine have their place in the spiritual economy alongside of the flowers and fruitage of a beautiful life.

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity.

The thought of fulness, completeness, enters necessarily into every conception we form of God.

Monday.

We are making in the direction of the good or of the bad.

Tuesday.

Have faith in God. His judgments are a great deep; but He is in the depth as well as in the height.

Wednesday.

The sentiment of pity, that compassionate feeling which strength may entertain towards weakness.

Thursday.

Power held by an insecure tenure always makes an affectation of display.

Friday.

When God and man meet, they are going in opposite directions. The Father says, "Child, turn and go with Me."

Saturday.

Simple and wholesome teachings with respect to the duties we owe to one another.

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity.

Joy through love for a Deliverer in whom we can put supreme confidence.

Monday.

We can afford to wait for joy if only we are persuaded that joy waits for us. Yes, wait for it through the long watches of the night, wait for it "till the day break," and the joy-bells ring.

Tuesday.

Only love can meet and satisfy the soul's craving for love.

Wednesday.

We are not to suppose that indifference to things present and visible is essential to spirituality.

Thursday.

Many who never question the power of God are sometimes tempted to question the goodness of God.

Friday.

Against the modern disposition wholly to disassociate high thinking from right living.

Saturday.

Come and drink at that spring whose waters fail not.

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity.

Follow the footprints of Jesus Christ.

Monday.

The outward and inward religion ought to correspond.

Tuesday.

Above my friendships hold I God.

Wednesday.

Joy born of hope is set before us as one of the privileges of the Christian life.

Thursday.

The smooth lake, appealed to by the overarching sky, gives back the image, cloud for cloud, and blue for blue.

Friday.

The depth of our interest in things unseen is not to be accurately gauged by our indifference to things seen.

Saturday.

There is a pathway to joy . . . I mean Christian hope.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

What we want in our life is God's sunshine.

Monday.

The questioning spirit within us will not be hushed, save at the bidding of a voice which it has reason to believe is the clear, solemn voice of truth.

Tuesday.

Cheerfulness, surely, and a sunny temper.

Wednesday.

There is always a tumult of waves at the meeting of the waters; but when the streams have mingled, the flow is smooth and still again.

Thursday.

God would reach them in order that He may make them the better know His love.

Friday.

The ideal which is to entrance the soul must be a personal ideal.

Saturday.

The pathway of progress invariably works itself through the thicket of complexity out into the open of simplicity.

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

There is but one guarantee, one safeguard, the Spirit of Christ.

Monday.

We live from day to day by dint of looking forward to a future which promises to be in some one point or other better than our present.

Tuesday.

Vision is a blessed thing, even when it is imperfect vision.

Wednesday.

In the day of trouble we go down in search of some rock foundation on which to rest the structure of our hopes.

Thursday.

The terrors of the forest are for the man who blazes the path.

Friday.

To forget one another in our endeavors after spiritual achievement is hopelessly to defeat our own object.

Saturday.

Be it our effort to find good reasons for being hopeful.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

This peace of God, which we are to let be the one ruling influence in our hearts.

Monday.

A Hand which cannot fail shall guide thy feet.

Tuesday.

I believe in steering by the pole-star whether one expects to outlive the voyage or not.

Wednesday.

All through the long stretch of years, hope is the sustaining power.

Thursday.

If He is to speak to us, it will be in what must seem to all except ourselves the deepest silence.

Friday.

The Christian may be a little Kingdom of Heaven in himself.

Saturday.

God forces us to terms; He compels us to face the question whether we will live at variance with Him or in peace.

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

God has knit us together in the fellowship of a common humanity.

Monday.

It is not the most noisy demonstrations of sympathy that help us the most.

Tuesday.

Promise is the golden word all along through the generations.

Wednesday.

Though the cup cannot hold the waters of the sea, it can hold sea-water.

Thursday.

There is a better thing than peace at any price, namely, "peace with honor."

Friday.

Joy is a feeling that if it comes at all must bubble up in the heart like a spring.

Saturday.

Let us not look to God for a sort of utterance He has never vouchsafed, unless by miracle.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Gospel of the Carpenter's Son, as a means of uplift and betterment.

Monday.

There are songs without words, that find their way to the heart as readily as if the words went with them.

Tuesday.

What a man believes with all his heart, he holds as firmly as he does that which he knows with all his mind.

Wednesday.

We must be cared for one by one, not merely in the mass, if the caring is to mean much.

Thursday.

Let us learn to judge men by what they are at heart.

Friday.

Gladness is better than gold.

Saturday.

Counting the fruitage of the life we see,
Only as seed of harvests yet to be.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The things we see are no measure of the things we might see were He disposed to show them to us.

Monday.

Let us have done with whining complaints about the emptiness of life.

Tuesday.

He who ordained the strangely tangled scheme of Providence, is greater than his scheme.

Wednesday.

The sort of life worth living, and the sort of things worth dying for.

Thursday.

Brave and true and stout at heart, my way pursue.

Friday.

Conversion means neither more nor less than being turned about.

Saturday.

The very stilling of the waves is the direct result of God's having spoken.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.

Our Leader lives, our Teacher teaches still.

Monday.

Make not of work a labor.

Tuesday.

Not only to instruct but to gather the souls of men.

Wednesday.

What God expects of all of us in the matter of bearing our several portions of the world's great burden of toil.

Thursday.

It is by dint of the homely virtues, and through their patient exercise among unconspicuous scenes, that saintly lives are fashioned.

Friday.

Let us be firmly persuaded that God is a reality, not a fancy or a dream, and that He is ever near at hand.

Saturday.

No sooner has Paradise been lost than Paradise regained begins to loom.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.

Heartfelt reverence towards God, and consistent unselfishness in our dealings with our fellow-men.

Monday.

The soul is so capacious that all the furniture on earth will not suffice to deck out the merest corner of the vast interior.

Tuesday.

To know that He is with us and we with Him will be of itself the guarantee of a quiet content.

Wednesday.

Let us judge matters of the living present on their own merits, unbiased by inherited prejudice.

Thursday.

Learn the secret of real happiness by being useful to others, helpful, sympathetic, self-forgetting.

Friday.

The Gospel alone gives instead of takes.

Saturday.

The burden of prophecy is a better time coming.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

Helpfulness, co-operation, the respect of class for class, these are the outcome of the religion of the cross.

Monday.

The Christian is one who knows himself to be by nature weak and prone to go astray.

Tuesday.

It is only by dint of our knowing one another that we mortals are able to hold together.

Wednesday.

Men are bidden to be of good cheer, to look up and to lift up their heads.

Thursday.

A "holy" spirit must be one that discriminates, that knows the difference between goodness and badness.

Friday.

Be as willing that He should speak to us in His way, as He is that we should speak to Him in ours.

Saturday.

Steadfastness is a quality that everybody respects.

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.

One who has done as much for us has at least the right to expect that we shall trust Him.

Monday.

There is no such thing rightly as the bread of idleness: idleness owns no bread.

Tuesday.

Light is what we want . . . something to see by, something to walk by.

Wednesday.

Those words of God which in dark and troublous times availed to keep alive in men's hearts the spark of love.

Thursday.

Our hope being reasonable, our joy ought to be abundant.

Friday.

He had the courage to tell His disciples, over and over again, that there were things they must be content, here in this world, never to know.

Saturday.

Hope is the soil in which the seed of joy is sown.

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.

To be often holding intercourse with Him who is a Spirit must impart to the spirit which is in man a something not its own.

Monday.

Light . . . and life, and genial hope, this is what we need.

Tuesday.

Make old dreams of mine come true.

Wednesday.

The blessedness of our faith in the communion of saints.

Thursday.

One of the commonest of temptations . . . is the temptation to trust for success in life to natural quickness or agility of mind, rather than to steady, industrious, patiently sustained effort.

Friday.

To have that in us which emotion cannot overmaster, and which all-prevailing change cannot undermine.

Saturday.

As we believe so shall we legislate.

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

A genuine desire to know more than we do about things divine.

Monday.

Love no shade of doubt had ever touched,
So fond it was and true.

Tuesday.

The nations are but larger families.

Wednesday.

We do well to choose for our authorities . . . those whose words seem to strike deepest into the heart.

Thursday.

Leadership is what is wanted. The land cries out for it,—wise, sympathetic, modest, clear-eyed, fearless leadership.

Friday.

The faith under which we were brought up, by which we seek to live, in which we desire to die.

Saturday.

He had the divine art of holding his peace.

The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity.

Christianity means an actual Kingdom with a real King.

Monday.

Sternness is not a necessary accompaniment of sanctity.

Tuesday.

The soul that owns the peace of God is not greatly distressed by failure.

Wednesday.

God's comforts are absolutely noiseless.

Thursday.

Light . . . is what, to those who ask Him for it, the Father of lights will not refuse.

Friday.

Men began to see why so large a measure of personal loyalty was demanded of them, when they were shown how He who asked it had died to take away their sin.

Saturday.

Thou shalt see gentleness o'ermaster strength.

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity.

We only know the Judge of all doth right.

Monday.

There were times when even His soul was exceedingly sorrowful.

Tuesday.

Desponding heart, be strong,—
Strong to submit, to trust, to wait.

Wednesday.

It is commonly the touch of God's hand, that first changes sleepy acquiescence in His existence into a vivid appreciation of His nearness.

Thursday.

The very earliest monuments of Christian worship that we possess are rituals of Thanksgiving.

Friday.

Not so much by thoroughly understanding the sacraments as by gladly availing ourselves of them are we helped.

Saturday.

One whom His children may love and trust to the very uttermost point.

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The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity.

We are convinced that we have in Him the true and living way that leads to God.

Monday.

Those who hope in Him will be wiser if they hope with all their hearts, than if they hope with only half their hearts.

Tuesday.

Childhood has its own type of religion, just as youth, manhood, and old age have theirs.

Wednesday.

What a momentous thing it is to have a conscience, and to know right from wrong.

Thursday.

Christianity has produced the highest type of family life the world has ever known.

Friday.

We need lifting up. The pettinesses of life too much engross us.

Saturday.

That always praiseworthy possession, an open mind.

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

Simplicity is one of religion's chiefest charms.

Monday.

She murmured not, but with a courage true,
Pressed on as if the pathway had been sweet.

Tuesday.

Good gold is a gold which is so called because it is always doing and bestowing good.

Wednesday.

Our days are spent in too great intimacy with the things perishable and transient.

Thursday.

God hath other fields than those ye know.

Friday.

We live by dreaming of golden times to come.

Saturday.

In the heavenly diplomacy the only ultimatum recognized as such is perfect peace, and until this perfect peace is conquered the wars of the Lord go on.

The Sunday next before Advent.

Earthly happiness rests on supports, but joy has wings wherewith to fly.

Monday.

Substantial nourishment is what the mind and heart must have.

Tuesday.

Pictures of surpassing beauty are not so numerous in the gallery of the soul that we can afford to blot the most surpassingly beautiful of them all.

Wednesday.

God's method of finally blessing the many is by presently blessing the few.

Thursday.

Hearsay and record, two things that ought by all means to be kept apart.

Friday.

The moment one realizes what the holiness of God really means, the proud refusal to confess our own want of holiness seems a species of insanity.

Saturday.

Deeper earnestness of purpose, a keener discernment of the superiority of the heavenly over the worldly values.

Saint Andrew's Day.

The gospel of Christ is a social message.

Saint Thomas the Apostle.

There are some things we cannot know.

The Conversion of Saint Paul.

Proven a Christian by the work he wrought.

Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

The hand of this little child, whom Mary has brought into the temple to be presented before the Lord, is destined to overthrow and to cast away many things.

Saint Matthias's Day.

One who lays claim not merely to attention but to allegiance, who offers love and asks it in return, who owns Himself willing to die for us and who asks us to be willing to die for Him.

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Could anything possibly be more beautiful than this marvellous narrative, whether we judge it by the literary or by the spiritual standard? Its purity is as the purity of driven snow, its simplicity is the simplicity of lips that know not how to frame a lie.

Saint Mark's Day.

Whole-hearted devotion to the King and to His Kingdom.

Saint Philip and Saint James's Day.

To know God is the soul's supreme blessedness.

Saint Barnabas the Apostle.

To believe with all my heart that the One who wrought the miracle is what He claimed to be.

Saint John the Baptist's Day.

There are available, in God's revelation of Himself in Christ, treasures of comfort and of cheer, treasures of pity and compassion, treasures of loving-kindness and tender mercy fully ample to meet the needs of all who suffer.

Saint Peter's Day.

Strengthener of his brethren in their hour of need.

Saint James the Apostle.

Nothing is more central to religion than obedience.

The Transfiguration of Christ.

O God, who on the mount didst reveal to chosen witnesses thine only-begotten Son wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistering: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may be permitted to behold the King in his beauty, who with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen.

Saint Bartholomew the Apostle.

God does not ask us to accept as religious truth anything that is against reason. He does ask us, however, to accept as true some things which reason, unaided, could never have discovered.

Saint Matthew the Apostle.

It is unselfishness, not selfishness, that makes men to be of one mind in that large house we name the world.

Saint Michael and All Angels.

Stronger the lips that plead than hands that slay.

Saint Luke the Evangelist.

I must take Him as I find Him, gifted with a power over Nature wholly out of the common, able to say to dead Lazarus, "Come forth," and to the winds and waves of Tiberias, "Be still."

Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles.

A divine friendship made possible.

All Saints' Day.

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts." Great is the wealth of comfort hidden in the thought that it is possible thus to become confederate with those who know how to worship.

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